

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 SR-02 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1518

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 4492

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, IR, IZ

SUBJ: IRAQI KURDISH REFUGEES

REF: TEHRAN 3771, TEHRAN 3461 AND TEHRAN 3308

ATHENS PASS INS

1. EMBASSY CONTINUES TO RECEIVE INQUIRIES FROM KURDISH REFUGEES WHO HAVE APPLIED TO ENTER US UNDER SECTION 203(A)(7). WE APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S DISTRACTION WITH PROBLEMS OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, BUT MUST AGAIN REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S DECISION ABOUT KURDISH REFUGEES AND GUIDANCE WHAT TO TELL THEM. LIST NOW CONTAINS APPROX 100 NAMES, INCLUDING DEPENDENTS. WITHOUT EXCEPTION THESE ARE PEOPLE WHO WERE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE WAR EFFORT; EITHER FIGHTING WITH THE PESH MERGA OR WORKING FOR THE KURDISH DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT. THEY THEREFORE FEEL ENDANGERED SHOULD THEY RETURN IRAQ.(REF LONDON 6582). AS YET SEE NO SIGN OF THEIR BEING ABSORBED INTO IRANIAN COMMUNITY, AS THEY ARE STILL REQUIRED TO RESIDE IN REFUGEE CAMPS NEAR IRAQI BORDER.

2. IF INS UNABLE TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE IRAN FOR THE SHORT TIME IT WOULD TAKE TO PROCESS THIS LIMITED NUMBER, EMBASSY REQUESTS UNEQUIVOCAL ANSWER AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THEY COULD BE PROCESSED BY INS IN FRANKFURT. WEST GERMAN EMB STATES IT WOULD GIVE VISAS TO KURDS FOR PROCESSING FRANKFURT IF KURD HAS TRAVEL DOCUMENT PER-
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MITTING RETURN IRAN SHOULD VISA FOR US NOT BE GRANTED IN FRANK-

FURT. IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS STATED THAT KURDS LEAVING IRAN NOT PERMITTED TO RETURN, HOWEVER. THIS PROBLEM PROBABLY NOT INSURMOUNTABLE. IF INS FRANKFURT UNABLE TO PROCESS THEM, WOULD ATTORNEY GENERAL PAROLE INTO US A CERTAIN NUMBER, IF THOSE PEOPLE COULD REACH US WITH OWN FINANCIAL RESOURCES? VIRTUALLY ALL HEADS OF FAMILY HAVE HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION, MOST HAVE ALSO UNIVERSITY, AND MANY SPEAK GOOD ENGLISH.

3. THERE ARE FOUR PHYSICIANS WHO QUALIFY UNDER SCHEDULE A EXCEPT HAVE NOT TAKEN ECFMG EXAM. MAY EMBASSY WAIVE THAT REQUIREMENT IN THIS CASE, IF ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONS NEGATIVE?

4. UNOFFICIAL KURDISH REPRESENTATIVE TO UNITED NATIONS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE HAS OFFERED ASSISTANCE FOR KURDISH REFUGEES. IS DEPARTMENT AWARE OF WHAT KIND OF ASSISTANCE THEY MIGHT BE PREPARED TO OFFER?

MIKLOS

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